

Serial No.: 09/554,860

Group Art Unit No.: 1644

Amendment to the Drawings

The attached papers of “Replacement Sheets” and “Annotated Sheets Showing Changes” include changes made to the Figure descriptions for Figures 7-12.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 1 to 20 and 22 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1 to 7, 10, 12, 13, and 18 to 20 stands rejected. Claims 1, 12, 13, 18, and 20 are amended herein. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, at page 7 and 8. New claim 23 is added. No claims stand objected to. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections for the reasons set forth herein. There is no issue of new matter.

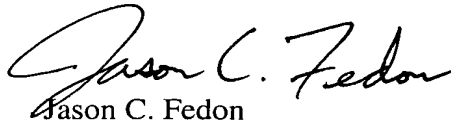
The amended claims are directed to mutant allergens of Pro-DerP1. Pro-DerP1 is an enzymatically inactive pro-form of DerP1. None of the prior art documents disclose mutant versions of the *D. pteronyssinus* Pro-DerP1 protein. Further, none of the documents suggest introducing mutations into the *D. pteronyssinus* Pro-DerP1 protein in order to obtain an enzymatically inactive protein which has reduced allergenicity compared to wild type DerP1 protein, and which may be used to treat an individual suffering from an allergy to the DerP1 protein.

In view of the foregoing remarks and the claims as amended, the Applicant's respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his rejections based on 35 USC §102(b), §102(e), §103(a), and §112, first and second paragraphs because the current amended claims and new Claim 23 render these rejections moot.

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The Applicants reserve the right to prosecute, in one or more patent applications, the claims to non-elected inventions, the claims as originally filed, and any other claims supported by the specification. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the Office Action and believe this response to be a full and complete response to such Office Action. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the pending and new claims is earnestly solicited. If it would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to confer with the Applicants' undersigned agent.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jason C. Fedon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jason" being the most prominent.

Jason C. Fedon
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Attachments